agriculture by 30% in 2005-06. Initiatives have also been taken to include micro irrigation, enhanced provision for the accelerated irrigation technology programme, strengthening of agricultural marketing infrastructure, development of backward and forward linkages through venture capital support and facilitations to growers, association for producing larger and better quality of fruits, flowers and vegetables.

Research on agricultural production

1046. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any periodic research in Agriculture has been conducted to increase agricultural production in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey has been under taken to monitor the impact of these researches on agricultural production; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The research is being carried out in the areas of crop improvement, management of horticultural crops, natural resource management, livestock improvement and management, fish production and processing, agricultural engineering and post harvest technology.

(c) and (d) There are large number of studies on impact of the researches on agricultural production. The outcome varies from crop to crop and region to region. Although there are considerable variations, the average rate of return to investment in agricultural research was about 70 per cent with a median value of more than 50 per cent. The results have shown that agricultural research has been major source of productivity growth in India.

Agriculture Coordination Committee

†1047.PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to constitute an Agriculture Coordination Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main reasons for the constitution of the Committee?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) An Agriculture Coordination Committee has been recently constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister, to evolve a systematic approach to policy formulation on issues pertaining to agriculture and to promote inter-sectoral and inter-departmental coordination in planning and implementation. The revised composition of the Committee is as follows:

1. Prime Minister — Chairman
2. Minister for Agriculture and Food & Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs
3. Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers
4. Minister of Finance
5. Minister for Commerce & Industry
6. Minister for Water Resources
7. Minister of Rural Development
8. Minister of Panchayati Raj
9. Minister of State for Food Processing
10. Minister of State for Science & Technology
11. Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission
12. Chairman, Economic Advisory Council
13. Chairman, National Commission on Farmers
14. Member (Agriculture), Planning Commission
15. Principal Secretary to PM — Convenor

Secretaries of the Ministries/Departments concerned would be permanent invitees. The Chairman could invite any Minister/Officer depending upon the context.

The Committee may commission specialized studies depending upon the requirements, which arise from time to time and could engage in the following tasks:-

(a) Identify key areas that require fresh policy initiatives, particularly those of an inter-sectoral nature.

(b) Outline the follow-up action that needs to be taken to implement identified policy initiatives.

(c) Identify institutional mechanisms to implement policies and programmes.

(d) Monitor key policy initiatives.

(e) To oversee and coordinate the integrated implementation of those recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers that are accepted by the Government.

Assistance for dairy development to M.P.

†1048. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals that have been received by Government from the Madhya Pradesh Government under Consolidated Dairy Development Plan;

(b) the action being taken on those proposals;

(c) by when the approval will be granted to those proposals; and

(d) the details of the objectives and targets set by Government under Consolidated Dairy Development Plan; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) Nine proposals have been received from the Madhya Pradesh Government under different schemes of diary development since April, 2004. Three proposals have been approved and for the rest of the proposals, State Government has been requested to revise them as per guidelines of the respective schemes.

(d) The schemes of dairy development are demand driven and no state-wise targets are fixed under them. The objectives of the different Schemes are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Objectives of Dairy Development Scheme

I. Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)

Objectives:-

(i) Development of milch cattle.

(ii) Increase the milk production by providing Technical Inputs services.

(iii) Procurement, Processing and Marketing of milk in a cost effective manner.

(iv) Ensure remunerative prices to the milk producers.

(v) Generate additional employment opportunities.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.